

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 16, 2003. Claims 11-26 are pending in the application. Claims 17, 22 and 24-25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 11-16, 18-21, 23 and 26 are rejected. Applicants respond to the rejection of claims 11-16, 18-21, 23 and 26 as follows.

**Response to rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 11, 14, 19-20, 23 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Voldman, U.S. Patent No. 5,559,051. Claims 11-14, 23 and 26 recite *inter alia* a wafer including a glide head array including rows and columns of glide portions having **an air bearing surface formed on a surface of the wafer** and an array of glide transducers on the wafer. Col. 2, lines 28-43 of Voldman and FIGS. 5-7, 16-19 and 22-25 illustrate a wafer surface having rows and columns of magnetic heads 50 formed on a wafer surface for fabricating magnetic heads for reading and writing information. As recited, the wafer (or quadrant) is then diced into rows (see FIG. 8) and the row is lapped which forms the air bearing surface (Col. 2, lines 39-43, Col. 7. lines 58-60). Thus, Voldman does not teach *inter alia* a glide head array including rows and columns of glide portions having an air bearing surface formed on a surface of the wafer as recited in the claims.

Claim 19 recites *inter alia* a glide head formed from a wafer having an air bearing surface formed on a surface of the wafer and an array of glide transducers on the wafer which as previously discussed is not taught nor suggested by Voldman. Claim 20 is dependent upon claim 19 and further recites *inter alia* a detection system for detecting asperities which is not taught nor suggested by Voldman.

Claims 12-13, 15-16, 18 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Voldman in view of Smith. Claims 12-13, 15-16, 18 and 21 are dependent upon claim 11 which is not taught nor suggested by Voldman nor the further combination of Smith as argued previously in response to the Office Action of December 23, 2002.

Claims 12-13, 15-16, 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Voldman in view of Aylwin, U.S. Patent No. 5,452,166. Claims 12-13, 15-16, 18 and 23 are dependent upon claim 11 which is not taught nor suggested by Voldman nor the further combination of Aylwin as argued previously in response to the Office Action of December 23, 2002. Claim 23 further recites an array of glide transducers formed on a the surface of the wafer having the air bearing surface formed thereon which was rejected without consideration of the recited claim elements.

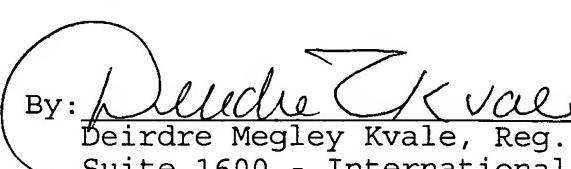
Based upon the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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